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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1954.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

STAFF.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. John Rigby, M.B.Ch.B. D.P.H.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

R.H. Graysom, Cert., R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR

F.C. Ryding, Cert., R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR

R. Hilton, Cert., R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

In addition the Department has a full-time junior clerk (female).

A Rodent Operator is also employed.

Outside staff is engaged on Scavenging.

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY.

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Gillibrand Street,  
CHORLEY.  
Lancashire.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Report for the year 1954.

AREA.

There was no change in the District during the year, the area is 41,114.

The District encircles the Municipal Borough of Chorley, and is bounded on the North by Walton-le-Dale U.D., Leyland U.D., and Preston R.D., on the South by Wigan R.D., Standish U.D., Adlington U.D. and Horwich U.D., on the West by West Lancashire R.D., and on the East by Blackburn R.D., Withnell U.D. and Turton U.D.

The District is varied in character, and whilst there is considerable industry, some parts of the District are really rural in character.

Agriculture predominates in the area which has its share of rich agricultural land. In addition there is of course cotton spinning and weaving, mining, the Royal Ordnance Factory in the District is an industry on its own, brickmaking is carried on in several parishes, and the old craft of basket making is still carried on in Mawdesley. There are in addition vast industries in some of the adjoining areas which provide work for residents of the District.

POPULATION.

The estimated population (Registrar General's Figure) for Mid 1954 is 27,240.

The following figures give the population since 1944 and show the variation:-

<u>1944</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
25,540	24,420	25,430	26,150	26,940	27,360	27,510	27,150	27,260	27,090	27,240

The Census figure for 1931 was 23,633.

The Census figure for 1951 was 27,198.

INHABITED HOUSES.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1954 was 8,368.

RATEABLE VALUE.

The Rateable value of the District is - £189,764.

The sum represented by a penny rate is - £760.



# S T A T I S T I C S.

## BIRTH RATE.

### Live Births.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	
Legitimate	356	187	169	
Illegitimate	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>	
	<u>367</u>	<u>190</u>	<u>177</u>	
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population				13.5
Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales				15.2

### Still Births.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	
Legitimate	11	5	6	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	
The Rate per 1,000 civilian population is				0.40
The Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales				0.36

## DEATH RATE.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	
	332	167	165	
The Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population is				12.2
The Death Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales is				11.3

### Infantile Deaths.

The Death Rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births is:-	22.0
The Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales is	25.5
There were actually 8 infantile deaths.	

### Maternal Deaths.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

The following table gives the figures for the past thirteen years.



YEAR	LIVE BIRTH RATE		STILL BIRTH RATE	DEATH RATE		INFANTILE DEATH RATE	MATERNAL DEATHS.
	Chorley R.D.	England and Wales.	Chorley R.D. (per 1,000 live and still Births).	Chorley R.D.	England and Wales.	Chorley R.D. (per 1,000 live births).	Chorley R.D.
1942	15.8	15.8	50.0	11.0	11.6	43	2
1943	18.3	16.5	38.0	12.0	12.1	52	2
1944	19.3	17.6	33.5	11.6	11.6	33	2
1945	15.2	16.1	42.0	11.9	11.4	50	-
1946	18.2	19.1	27.0	10.5	11.5	36	1
1947	20.4	20.5	27.0	12.3	12.0	50	-
1948	18.1	17.9	25.0	10.4	10.8	32	-
1949	15.9	16.7	18.0	12.5	11.7	32	-
1950	15.0	15.8	23.0	13.0	11.6	38	-
1951	14.0	15.5	28.0	14.0	12.5	32	-
1952	14.2	15.3	23.0	12.2	11.3	26	2
1953	14.6	15.5	27.0	11.3	11.4	35	-
1954	13.5	15.2	29.0	12.2	11.3	22	-

DEATHS FROM.


YEAR	CANCER (all ages)	MEASLES (all ages)	WHOOPING COUGH (all ages)	DIARRHOEA. (under 2 years of age).
1942	43	-	2	3
1943	32	-	-	1
1944	51	-	-	1
1945	42	-	1	-
1946	38	-	-	-
1947	42	-	2	3
1948	45	-	-	2
1949	27	-	1	1
1950	50	-	1	-
1951	45	-	-	4
1952	48	-	-	1
1953	55	-	-	2
1954	39	-	-	-





ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSE.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Tuberculosis (all forms).	2	1	3
Syphilitic disease.	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	-	1	1
Cancer (all forms).	13	26	39
Leukaemia, aleukaemia,	1	1	2
Diabetes.	1	-	1
Vascular Lesions of nervous system.	22	28	50
Heart Diseases.	76	68	144
Other Circulatory diseases.	6	11	17
Influenza.	3	2	5
Pneumonia.	6	2	8
Bronchitis.	8	4	12
Other Respiratory Diseases.	1	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach.	2	-	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	3	4	7
Hyperplasia of prostate.	3	-	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations.	1	1	2
Other defined and illdefined diseases.	10	10	20
Motor Vehicle accidents.	6	-	6
All other accidents.	3	1	4
Suicide.	-	3	3
TOTAL.	167	165	332



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## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Isolation Hospital at Heath Charnock provides accommodation for infectious cases.

The total number of cases notified during 1954 was 415.

The figure is 78 less than in 1953.

Reference to pages 8 & 9 shows the decrease is mainly due to the reduction in the number of Measles, Whooping Cough, and Scarlet Fever.

There were no cases of Diphtheria.

There were 62 cases of Food Poisoning of these 61 cases occurred in an outbreak at Highways Hostel, a detailed report of which follows;

### OUTBREAK OF SALMONELLA TYPHI-MURIUM at HIGHWAYS HOSTEL, EUXTON.

Highways hostel at the time of the outbreak belonged to the Ministry of Supply but was administered by the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., jointly for the Ministry.

Staff and Residents are constantly changing, the approximate number of persons residing there at the time of the outbreak was 700 residents and 150 staff.

Medical Practitioners visit patients at the Hostel Sick Bay, but in addition one doctor acted in a supervisory capacity.

It was from the doctor acting as superintendent that the first intimation of the outbreak came, this was on Wednesday 24th. February, 1954, the Divisional County M.O.E., had also been notified.

24.2.54.

<u>Wednesday</u>	Hostel visited, number of persons affected	14
	All of whom were in Sick Bay, several of these had been there some days.	
	<u>Symptoms.</u> Shivering, aching limbs, pains in joints followed later by diarrhoea.	
	No specimens had been submitted for examination. Food eaten on Sunday 20th, February, suspected by Sister in Sick Bay, unfortunately there were no particles of this food available for examination.	

25.2.54

<u>Thursday.</u>	Number of cases risen to	19
	Canteen Superintendent interviewed and Kitchen inspected. First faeces specimens collected for examination.	

26.2.54

<u>Friday.</u>	Number of cases in Sick Bay.	20
	Discovered two sufferers were on canteen staff and arrangements were made to exclude them from food handling until results of specimens known.	

27.2.54

<u>Saturday</u>	Number of cases in Sick Bay	21
	Latest sufferer was employed as Cook in Canteen.	

1.3.54

<u>Monday</u>	Number of cases in Sick Bay	27
	First reports on specimens received.	
	Organism typhi-murium	



2.3.54.

Tuesday.

Number of cases in Sick Bay

28

Visited this time accompanied by Dr. Walker. Divisional County M.O.H., and discussed with Canteen Superintendent possibility of obtaining specimens from all Canteen staff.

Later spoke to approximately 30 members of Canteen Staff and was promised their co-operation.

At this time it was suggested by two members of the Canteen Staff that there were several people on the Hostel Staff, who suffered the symptoms but had failed to report the matter. This was pursued and arrangements were made for specimens to be obtained from these persons.

3.3.54.

Wednesday.

No further cases reported.

Further specimens from Canteen Staff collected.

4.3.54.

Thursday.

No further cases reported.

Further specimens from Canteen Staff collected.

5.3.54.

One more suspected case, this patient ultimately found to be negative so that the total cases found as a result of actual suffering remained at 28.

6.3.54.

3 reports of Kitchen Staff specimens received, all positive, ultimately 23 Kitchen Staff out of 46 were found to be excreting the organism. All positive cases were excluded from Canteen and Kitchen work but in order to keep the place running volunteers from affected Canteen Staff were allowed to exchange jobs with other staff from the Hostel.

The original cases were treated with Aural Penicillin and Sulphanalamide or Chloromycetin and as other persons were discovered excreting organism they also were given a course of treatment.

8.3.54

At this time it was learned that one of the persons who had suffered from the symptoms and had failed to report the matter was still excreting the organism, and as the persons concerned stated that she had suffered from the symptoms some weeks earlier consideration was given to arranging to get a cross section of the hostel examined on a voluntary basis and the co-operation of the Warden and the Sister in the Sick Bay was sought; as a result 84 persons submitted specimens and of these 7 were found to be positive.

All persons who suffered from the disease and those found to be excreting the organism received treatment after which further specimens were submitted for examination.

All persons excreting the organism were accepted as cases and reported as such.

The total number of cases was 61.

There were no further reports of persons suffering from the symptoms. After treatment three consecutive negative results were required before a person was considered free of infection.

In the case of food handlers six consecutive negative results were insisted upon.

It was not until May 14th that the last food handler was considered fit to return to work.

In all 710 specimens were examined.

Page 8 gives the number of notifiable diseases in each parish.

#### DISINFECTION OF PREMISES.

Terminal Disinfection is still carried out, and during the year 94 disinfections were done.





CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)  
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1954.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.											Total Deaths	Hospital	
	Total cases at all ages.	AGES PERIODS - YEARS.											Total cases remo- ved to hos- pital from the distr- ict	Deaths in hos- pital of per- sons belong- ing to dist- rict
		0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 & over	Age unk- nown			
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	31	-	2	8	17	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	28	-
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric or typhoid fever excludng paratyphoid.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (excludng rubella)	223	3	31	53	125	8	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	51	2	11	18	19	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute pneumonia (prim. and influenzal	17	-	-	-	6	1	-	2	4	4	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis Paralytic.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Non- paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis infective.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	13	-	-	2	3	1	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria (Contracted in England and Wales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria (Abroad	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	62	-	-	-	-	-	8	30	23	1	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	401	5	44	82	172	12	13	45	33	6	3			





TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)

NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Y E A R.									
	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945
Scarlet Fever.	31	91	88	71	39	104	172	51	61	55
Smallpox.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria (including membranous croup).	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	6	6	24
Enteric or typhoid fever (excluding paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (excluding rubella)	223	265	203	285	64	402	178	252	40	277
Whooping Cough.	51	80	47	83	96	63	49	125	16	56
Acute pneumonia (primary and Influenzal)	17	22	10	35	20	54	13	21	11	14
Eruptive Pyrexia.	-	1	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	1	1	-	-	3	-	-	10	-	-
Acute polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	13	6	2	-	-	1	-	-	40	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum.	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Erysipelas.	3	2	3	-	6	4	1	2	2	6
(Contracted (in England Malaria and Wales. (Abroad.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.	62	25	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Any other diseases.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	401	493	354	475	233	630	417	467	177	433



CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED  
DURING THE YEAR, 1954, FROM THE VARIOUS TOWNSHIPS.

TOWNSHIP.	FOOD POISONING.	ACUTE PNEUMONIA.	DYSENTERY.	ERYSIPELAS.	MEASLES.	SCARLET FEVER.	WHOOPING COUGH.	ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.	TOTAL.
Anderton.	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	-	5
Anglezarke.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bretherton.	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Brindle.	-	1	-	-	27	2	-	-	30
Charnock Richard.	-	-	-	-	12	1	1	-	14
Clayton-le-Woods.	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	8
Coppull.	1	-	-	-	40	2	25	-	68
Croston.	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Cuerden.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Eccleston.	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	1	8
Euxton.	61	-	-	1	89	2	4	-	157
Heapey.	-	-	-	-	8	1	-	-	9
Heath Charnock.	-	2	13	-	4	2	-	-	21
Heskin.	-	-	-	-	3	1	2	-	6
Hoghton.	-	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	6
Mawdesley.	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	4
Rivington.	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3
Ulnes Walton.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wheelton.	-	1	-	-	15	2	-	-	18
Whittle-le-Woods.	-	9	-	-	11	7	12	-	39
TOTAL.	62	17	13	3	223	31	51	1	401



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the water supplied by the Rural District Council through its mains is obtained from Manchester Corporation, and it is under constant supervision and examination by that Authority.

This water is supplied to nineteen of the twenty parishes which form the Rural District, the other parish, Rivington, is supplied by Liverpool Corporation which has extensive waterworks situated in that village.

Three more properties in Brindle were connected to the Council's mains during the year.

### SEWERAGE.

#### Clayton-le-Woods, Heapey, Wheelton and Whittle-le-Woods scheme

Work continued on this scheme throughout the year, unfortunately difficult conditions and exceptionally heavy rain interfered with the progress made.

The work on this scheme is divided by the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, and as the main sewer had not been laid across the canal the number of houses actually connected to the sewer was small in comparison to the amount of work done. Actually 19 houses were connected to the new sewer.

The new sewage disposal works at Whittle-le-Woods came into operation during the year and the old works was dismantled, ultimately the old works at Wheelton will be dismantled and the sewage treated at Whittle-le-Woods.

#### Coppull, Charnock Richard, Heskin, Eccleston, and Croston.

Work on this scheme had been going on for nearly four years at the end of 1954. During that time a considerable amount of work has been carried out but even so it was not possible to connect the house drains to the sewer, because the new sewage disposal plant at Croston was not completed, and of course until this work is completed the sewers will remain unusable. This bottleneck was however being tackled and if only the weather had been kinder much more progress would have been made.

### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

Each year I inform you in this report that there are still a large number of pail closets and privy middens in the Area. The target of 100 conversions was not reached this year, 72 were carried out and the total pails and privies was of course reduced again.

Once the two large sewerage schemes are completed the number of conversions for a year or two is likely to be much higher.

The number of conversions carried out in various parishes is given in the table on page 11, and the second table shows the total conversions carried out since 1940.





CONVERSIONS CARRIED OUT IN 1951.

Parish	Pails to W.C's	Privies to W.C's	Privies to Pails	Total.
Anderton	-	1	-	1
Bretherton	1	1	-	2
Brindle	1	-	-	1
Charnock Richard	-	1	-	1
Clayton-le-Woods	2	-	-	2
Coppull	4	20	-	24
Croston	4	4	-	8
Eccleston	3	-	-	3
Euxton	7	1	-	8
Heath Charnock	2	-	-	2
Heskin	1	-	-	1
Hoghton	-	-	-	-
Wheelton	-	-	-	-
Whittle-le-Woods	18	1	-	19
TOTALS.	43	29	-	72

Conversions Carried out Since 1940.

Years(s)	Pails to W.C's	Privies to W.C's	Privies to Pails	Total.
1940-1945	21	50	44	115
1946	25	15	4	44
1947	12	38	21	71
1948	62	51	23	136
1949	120	51	6	177
1950	101	29	7	137
1951	66	29	-	95
1952	99	20	-	119
1953	103	3	-	106
1954	43	29	-	72
TOTALS.	652	315	105	1,072

SCAVENGING

The whole of the area is scavenged by direct labour.

For the collection of dry refuse and emptying of privy middens five Karrier bantam refuse collectors are in regular use, and another is kept as a spare.

Pail closets are emptied by means of a cesspool emptier adapted for the purpose, this allows the nightsoil to be transported safely and hygienically about the District.

The disposal of nightsoil became difficult during the year and for a long time the bulk of it was disposed of in lagoons for use on the land. It is hoped, however, that the completion of the western sewerage scheme will allow disposal of nightsoil in the sewer at such a point that no inconvenience will be caused to anyone. Privy midden contents is also disposed of on land, the quantity of this is considerably less than it used to be and it does not create the same problem as nightsoil from the pail closets.





Disposal of dry refuse has gone on in the same manner as last year. The finding of really suitable tips is very difficult and the scattered nature of the District compels the use of numerous tips and this adds to the difficulty. Divorcing of the pail emptying from the dry refuse collection has, however, made it possible to consider special vehicles for dry refuse collection but no decision to acquire such vehicles had been made at the year end.

The submerged clay pit referred to in annual reports for several years now, gave no trouble in 1954, the excessive rain, I think, was responsible for this,

New garage accommodation for refuse vehicles came into use in November and for the first time for years the vehicles are properly housed.

#### DUSTBINS.

Statutory Notices under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936 were again served to get the simple dustbin provided.

During the year 31 Notices under Section 75 were served.

In 23 cases the Notices were complied with. .

In 8 cases dustbins were supplied by the Local Authority in default.

#### SALVAGE.

No waste paper was collected during the year. There was, however, a greater demand for salvaged paper at the end of the year than for some time, and as soon as accommodation is available for packing, as much paper as possible will be collected, primarily to keep it off the tips.

#### FOOD.

The privately owned bacon factory which started in 1951 was in operation throughout the year. The number of pigs dealt with was I think slightly more than in 1953.

In addition to the bacon factory other slaughterhouses come into use in the District with the decontrol of meat in July.

Prior to the war there were 11 licensed slaughterhouses. Several butchers had kept their licences renewed during the war, and just prior to decontrol 8 premises were licensed.

Of these eight premises one application for renewal was refused, and in another case application was not made for renewal of the licence, the number was therefore reduced to 6.

The slaughterhouses are in the following parishes:-

Coppull	2
Croston	2
Eccleston	1
Heskin	1

The premises are visited almost daily and the following table shows the result of the inspections carried out.



- Carcases Inspected and condemned.	PIGS.	BOVINES.
Number Killed	10,667	564
Number inspected	10,667	564
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>		
Whole carcases condemned	3	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	535	20
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	5.0	2.8
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>		
Whole carcases condemned	21	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	346	77
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	3.44	13.8

Numerous other inspections of foods took place, particularly at a wholesale depot and these resulted in the following being condemned and disposed of:-

	lbs.
Tinned Ham	229 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned Ox Tongue	62
Tinned Luncheon Meat	84
Tinned Stewed Steak	53 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned Jellied Veal	58
Tinned Corned & Pressed Beef	158
Tinned Meat Loaf	63
Tinned Steak & Kidney	30
Tinned Vegetables (Assorted)	226
Tinned Milk (Pints)	815 Pints
Tinned Fish	13 lbs.
Tinned Cream	20 onzs.
Tinned Fruit	728 lbs.
Preserves	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned Fruit Juices	38 Fluid onzs.
Cheese Spreads	10 lbs.
Syrup, Treacle, Honey	7
Tinned Soup	14
Jellies	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pickles & Sauces	19 $\frac{1}{2}$
Breakfast Cereals	43 packets
Flour	1 lb.
Barley	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Candied Peel	3
Ovaltine	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Shell Fish	5 gallons cockles.
Spaghetti	1 lb.
Rice	15 lbs.



## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

### Regulation 20.

During the year action was taken in one case to have milk pasteurised before use after it had been found that milk from the herd was affected with a disease communicable to man.

Compensation under the Regulations was later paid.

### MILK. Registered Distributors.

At the end of the year there were 27 Registered Distributors of milk in the District.

### Special Designated Milk.

The following licences were issued during the year:-

Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Pasteurised	12
Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Sterilised	20
Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Tuberculosis Tested	11

### ICE CREAM

There were no new premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream during the year. Manufacturers with one exception are in a small way only making what they themselves retail. In some cases the business is not continuous even in summer.

Not all premises registered for manufacture are used for that purpose, some only retail ice cream purchased from larger manufacturers.

The number of premises on the register at the end of the year was:-

Registered for the Manufacture, Storage and Sale	10
Registered for Storage and Sale only.	59
Total.	69

The following figures show the number refistered since 1948 -

<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
20	35	47	58	61	68

### SCHOOLS.

The School Medical Services are administered by the County Council and separate reports are issued.

There are 32 schools in the District including Rivington and Blackrod Grammar School.

### WATER SUPPLY.

All schools are supplied with water from the Council's mains.

### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

19 of the 32 schools have water closets.  
The remaining 13 schools have pail closets.

There are several schools to be served by the new sewers in course of construction, and as soon as they are completed every effort will be made to get them converted.





### CAMPING.

Little trouble was experienced during the year although there were numerous vans on one unlicensed site. There were also occasions when a few genuine wanderers stopped in the District.

There were no difficulties with genuine campers, in fact the District is little used by such, the problem with vans is the desire to use them as permanent habitations, there are a number of such in the Area.

There are also a few vans which have been in use for many years, one of these was removed during the year.

There are no sites licensed under the Public Health Act. A few licenses for individuals were however issued for short periods.

There are also a number of vans in the area which are exempt, eg., vans in store.

### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There are approximately 20 factory chimneys in the area, No legal action was taken but the owners of one chimney were interviewed with regard to smoke emission. The quality of fuel does not help in this respect.

### HOUSING.

The provision of new houses continued through out the year, the Local Authority erected 80 and 61 were erected by other persons.

During the year it was necessary to take action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of 14 houses. In 7 cases Demolition Orders were served, in 6 cases Undertakings were accepted and in one case a Closing Order was made. This makes the total of houses dealt with since the war 39, two of these, subject to undertakings, have however been reconditioned and are again in use.

### SLUM CLEARANCE.

During the year Local Authorities were given permission to commence Slum Clearance again. Infact the Ministry required information regarding the Councils plans in this direction. In the District 39 families have been rehoused from properties which have all been dealt with under Section 11 of the Act, that is as individual unfit houses. There has been no special building or no extre allocation of houses for this purpose, if, however, a fairly large number of houses are to be dealt with in a specified time as is suggested by the new law, then an additional allocation will be necessary or the work of providing separate houses for each family requiring one will be seriously interfered with.

### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

The position with regard to grants became much easier during the year, the procedure was simplified in as much as Local Authorities deal with applications without reference to the Ministry; and the minimum period of use was lowered. This resulted in an increased number of apolications and an increase in the number of grants made.

The number of schemes submitted was	19
Number of dwellings affected	19
Number of schemes approved	11
Number of dwellings affected	11

### SHOPS.

Inspection of shops carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors on behalf of the County Council. The majority of shops are small and are operated by the family. The number of inspections made in 1954 was 83.





## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

A large amount of work was again carried out under the Public Health Act, 1936.

269 nuisances were abated.

248 Informal Notices were served.

162 Statutory Notices were served, some of these involved drainage work affecting blocks of property.

Legal proceedings were taken in one case, an Abatement Order was granted and the work finally carried out by the Local Authority and the cost recovered.

In all 3,950 visits were made to various premises.

## PETROLEUM REGULATIONS.

73 licences were issued during the year.

## RODENT CONTROL.

A summary of the work performed under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, during the year is given on page 17.

A Rodent Operator was employed through out the year but his work was not confined entirely to rodent control.

Complaints were not numerous.

Co-operation with the Agricultural Executive Committee Pest Officers was maintained throughout the year.

Council properties, sewage disposal works, sewers and refuse tips are inspected regularly and any necessary treatment carried out. These properties were once a source of complaint, nothing is now heard of them.



RODENT CONTROL. Contd.

The following table summarises the work done during the year:-

TYPE OF PROPERTY.

	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses.	Agricult ural.	All others (including business premises).	Total.
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	21	7272	675	440	8,408
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1954 as a result of (a) notification (b) survey or otherwise (Notes 1,2 & 3)	(a) - (b) 21	179 2600	- 174	8 136	187 2,931
III. Number of properties inspected (see Section 11) which were found to be infested by rats (Notes 1,2 & 3.)	Major - Minor 12	- 34	1 -	1 7	2 53
IV. Number of properties inspected (see Section 11) which were found to be seriously infested by mice (Notes 1,2 & 3).	-	6	-	-	6
V. Number of infested properties (see sections 111 & 1V) treated by the Local Authority (Notes 1,2 and 3).	12	40	-	8	60
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4. 1 Treatment.	-	-	-	-	-
2. Structural Works (i.e. Proofing).	-	-	-	-	-
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by the Local Authority following the issue of a notice under Section 4.	-	-	-	-	-
VIII. Legal Proceedings.	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Number of "Block" Control Schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-	-



# FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

The following tables summarise the work done in connection with factories during the year.

## PART I OF THE ACT.

I. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health.				
Premises	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4,&6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	13	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	77	28	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding outwork premises.)	12	12	-	-
TOTAL.	102	50	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.					
Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which pro sections were ins- tituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
to H.M. Inspector			by H.M. inspector.		
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	2	2	-	2	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	3	3	-	3	-



NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47.

Early in the year one case, an old lady over 80 years of age, was dealt with. She was living alone and unable to care for herself.

She was removed on an emergency Order in the first place, this was later extended, finally the old lady went to stay with a relative. The premises left were in a very bad state and were later cleaned following action under the Public Health Act.

Section 50.

No cases were actually dealt with under this section during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. Rigby.

Medical Officer of Health.

